



Executive Officer's Report to the Board For August 22, 2003

Legislative Update

Governor Davis Signs Legislation Affecting Operation and Mission of Board

Two bills recently signed into law by Governor Davis bring changes for the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board.

AB 702, changes the makeup of the Board beginning in 2004, placing it directly under the jurisdiction of the State and Consumer Services Agency. The bill adds the Agency Secretary (or her designee) to the three-member Board, replacing the Director of the Department of General Services (DGS).

AB 1765 (Budget Trailer Bill, Sec. 25.00) abolishes the Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP) effective January 1, 2004. The legislation further provides that the victim services grant programs within OCJP may be transferred to the Board. The Board's Interim Executive Officer and OCJP's interim executive director are currently discussing a smooth transition for the Victim Services Division of OCJP to the Board. The Victim Services Division consists of programs and staff in the Children's Branch, the Domestic Violence Branch, the Sexual Assault Branch, and the Victim Witness Branch – all of which may be transferred to the Board.

Victim Services Study Moving Forward

The Board continues to assist State and Consumer Services Agency Secretary Aileen Adams with the completion of a Victim Services Study, mandated by AB 2435 (Chapter 89, Statutes of 2002) and due to the Legislature in January 2004.

Board staff is participating in meetings with members of the victim services field to discuss gaps in services across the state, the future of the compensation fund, and future governance of victim services grant programs. Board staff has also been assigned to assist with researching and writing the report.

Board Activities

California Claims Management System Update

The Board is eagerly awaiting a final decision on the vendor for the Board's new computer system. The final bids have been received and staff is currently on schedule in evaluating the bids for compliance with the RFP requirements. The award should be made around September 24. The three top vendors must demonstrate their system to the evaluation team prior to the contract award. One of the tasks of this project is to provide additional computer training for staff.

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Cypress Police Officials Visit Board

On August 15, Deputy Executive Officer David Shaw met with a delegation of police officials from the island nation of Cypress. The foreign officers were visiting California on Fulbright Scholarships for education and cultural exchange and are collecting information about domestic violence prevention and treatment strategies in California. Mr. Shaw provided an overview of the Victim Compensation Program (VCP) restitution and domestic violence funding and programs in California. The meeting at the Board was arranged by the Northern California World Trade Center.

Victim Compensation

Board Staff Seeks to Resolve L.A. Crime Report Problem

When reviewing an application for victim compensation, Board staff must verify certain information to determine if the application is eligible. A police report documenting a crime is a critical source of information that enables staff to establish: (a) whether a crime the program covers did occur, (b) the identity of the victim, (c) crime location, (d) nature of injury, etc.

Government Code Section 13954 (d) gives the Board legal authority to request and obtain crime reports, but not all law enforcement agencies comply quickly. As a result, Board staff sometimes is delayed (often for months) in their efforts to determine whether a victim is eligible to receive VCP benefits. Historically, it has been more difficult to obtain reports from Los Angeles area law enforcement agencies than other agencies throughout the state.

In the past, staff has made an extra effort to obtain needed crime reports from the Los Angeles area (including assigning a staff member nearly full time to pursue them), yet the problem persists. A more systemic evaluation and solution are needed. The problem involves several agencies that share crime reports. The Board's perspective is that staff is not receiving timely reports; while the perspective of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is that it is overwhelmed with duplicative crime report requests, not only from the VCP, but also from victims and their representatives. Staff has met with the director of the Los Angeles City Victim Witness Center to begin investigating the issues and will, together, contact the LAPD to resolve this issue.

State Fair Dedicates September 11th Memorial Plaza

On August 15, Board staff attended a dedication ceremony of the new September 11th Memorial Plaza at the California State Fair grounds. The memorial is composed of a granite ball with the names of the 3,070 September 11th victims, a 50-foot belltower, and two white towers. Steel from the World Trade Center stands on one side of the plaza. When completed, the memorial will include three pieces from the Pentagon and a memorial item from Shanksville, Pa., where United Airlines Flight 93 went down.

The ceremony included remarks from Larry Davis, a State Fair board member and leader of the memorial project, and representatives from the law enforcement community. The artist who designed the memorial, David Mueller, spoke about his experience and Bill Hudson, formerly of the Hudson Brothers, created a CD titled "3,000 Down" in honor of September 11, 2001.

Kimi and Sonali Beaven, wife and daughter of Alan Beaven who died on Flight 93, attended the ceremony. Kimi shared her thoughts about the memorial and spoke about her husband. The Governor's Office presented a special proclamation to mark the occasion.

A pictorial display at the memorial also recognized the heroic acts performed by law enforcement, emergency personnel, and rescue and recovery workers in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks.

Revenue Recovery

Upcoming Trainings for Judges and Probation Officers

On August 27-28, Revenue Recovery staff will provide training on restitution to judges and probation officers in Del Norte County.

Liens and Overpayments Section:

During July 2003, the Liens and Overpayments Section (LORS) collected \$181,425.37 in liens and overpayments on behalf of the VCP and filed 37 new liens in civil, auto, and workers' compensation cases.

Meetings:

Following a meeting last month, Board staff has been in regular contact with Judicial Council staff exploring opportunities to improve the restitution process in California. Of significant note, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is setting up a meeting between Board staff and the directors of the New Judges' Transition Course and the New Judges' College to discuss adding restitution to the curriculum. The AOC is also working with the Board to develop a restitution law update seminar that would be broadcast to all California courthouses for judges, court clerks, and administrative personnel. The Judicial Council has also promised to include the Board in future criminal law committee meetings to combine efforts to improve the imposition and collection of fines and orders.

Hearing and Appeals:

During the month of July 2003, 42 claims were scheduled, and 29 claims were scheduled for the month of August, 2003. Between July 25, 2003 and August 22, 2003, a total of 23 hearings have been scheduled.

Upcoming Events

(The conferences and events listed below are for informational purposes only.)

National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA)

Date: August 24-29

Location: New Orleans

Sponsor: NOVA

Two Board managers will attend this annual conference to collect information and promote next year's conference, which is scheduled to be held in Sacramento, and co-sponsored by several state agencies, including the Board.

8th International Conference on Family Violence: Working Together to End Abuse

Date: September 17-20 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location: Town & Country Hotel, San Diego

Sponsor: The Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute in San Diego

This conference will address advocacy, assessment, intervention, research, prevention, and policy. For more information contact the Conference Staff at Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute, 6160 Cornerstone Court East, San Diego, CA 92121. Phone (858) 623-2777 ext/ 427. http://www.fvsai.org/FVSAI_onlineReg.htm.

Annual Conference of the National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards

Date: September 22-26.

Location: New Orleans

Sponsor: National Association of Crime Victim Compensation Boards

A member of the Board's executive staff is scheduled to attend this annual conference.

WEAVE Black and White Gala

Date: October 4

Location: Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento

Sponsor: WEAVE

This ball is a fund-raiser for WEAVE, a non-profit organization that helps victims of domestic violence. For more information contact WEAVE at (916) 488-2321.

17th Annual California Governor's Conference for Women

Date: October 22

Location: Long Beach Convention Center

The California Governor's Conference for Women is a non-profit, non-partisan, state-sponsored forum for women of all generations and backgrounds to share perspectives on succeeding in a complex and diverse world. For more information contact www.cgcw.org or info@cgcw.org. Phone number is 650-548-2424.

Revenue Recovery Activity*

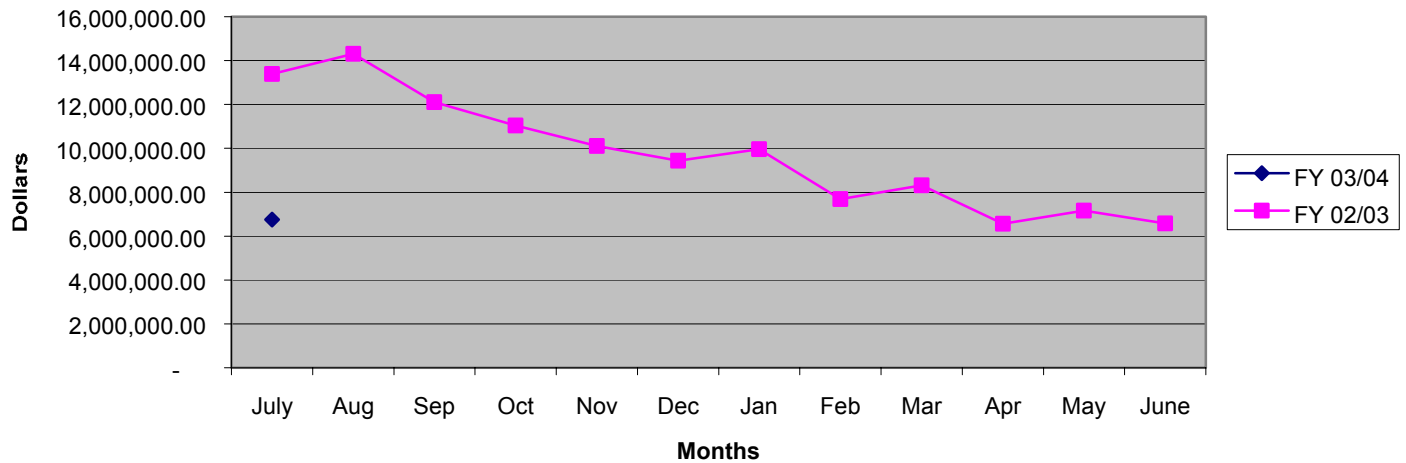
*The July numbers from Contracted Fiscal Services did not arrive in time for this report. These numbers will be featured in the September 19 Executive Officer's Report.

Victim Compensation Program Activity

VCP PAYMENTS

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of July	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	\$6,746,802	\$6,746,802	-50%
FY 02/03		\$13,392,506	

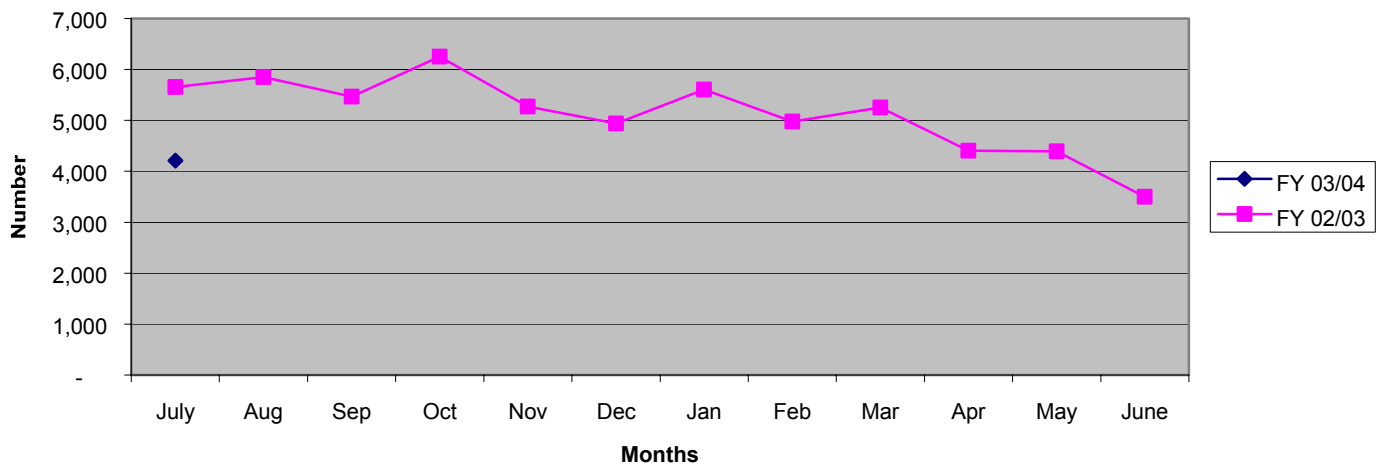
Payment Awards



VCP NUMBER OF CLAIMS RECEIVED

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of July	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 03/04	4,210	4,210	-26%
FY 02/03		5,655	

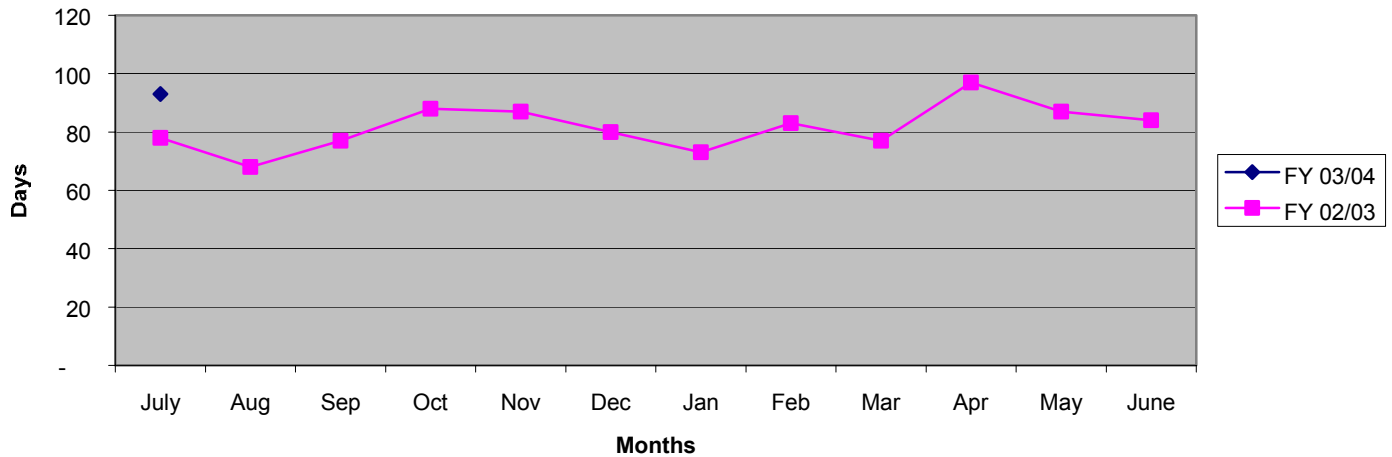
Number of VCP Claims Received



VCP CLAIM PROCESSING TIME IN DAYS

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of July	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior
FY 03/04	93	93	19%
FY 02/03	78	78	-

VCP Average Processing Time

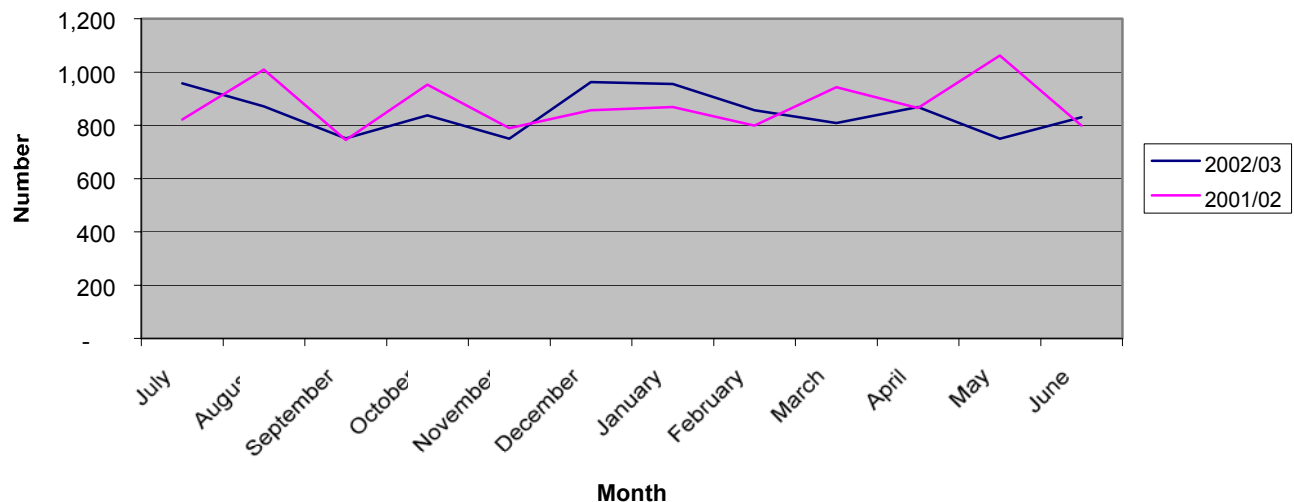


Government Claims

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS RECEIVED

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of June	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 02/03	830	10,197	-3 %
FY 01/02		10,510	

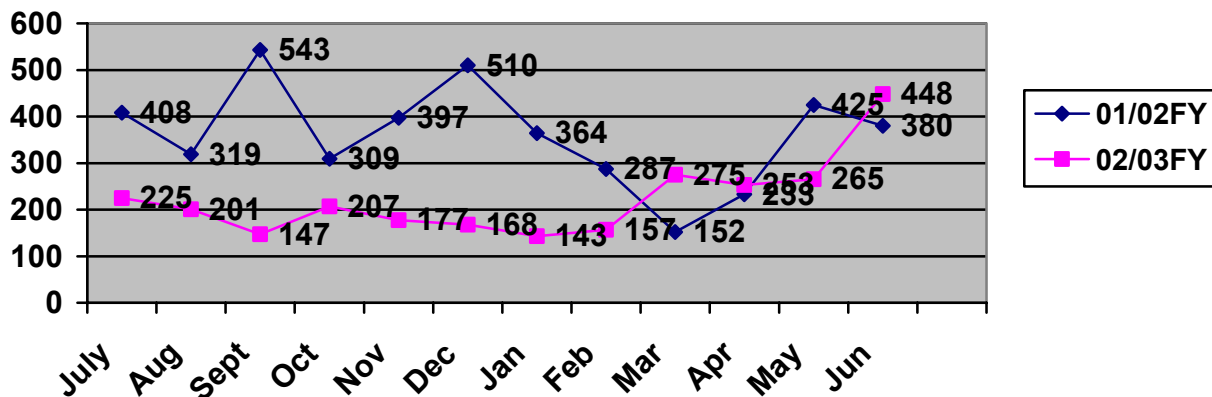
Government Claims Received



CONTRACT CLAIMS – AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of June	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 02/03	448	201	-43%
FY 01/02		352	

Contract Claims- Avg Proc Time

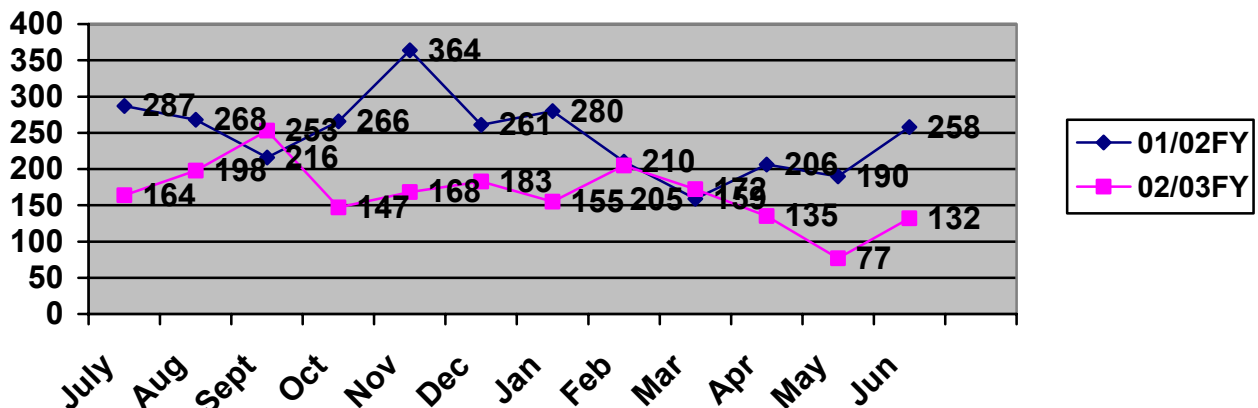


Contract claims -These are typically claims where a vendor has provided services to the State, but a purchase order or contract was not officially in place at the time the services were performed and, therefore, the affected agency does not have the authority to pay the invoice without the Board's approval.

EQUITY CLAIMS – AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of June	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 02/03	132	146	-35%
FY 01/02		226	

Equity Claims - Avg Proc Time

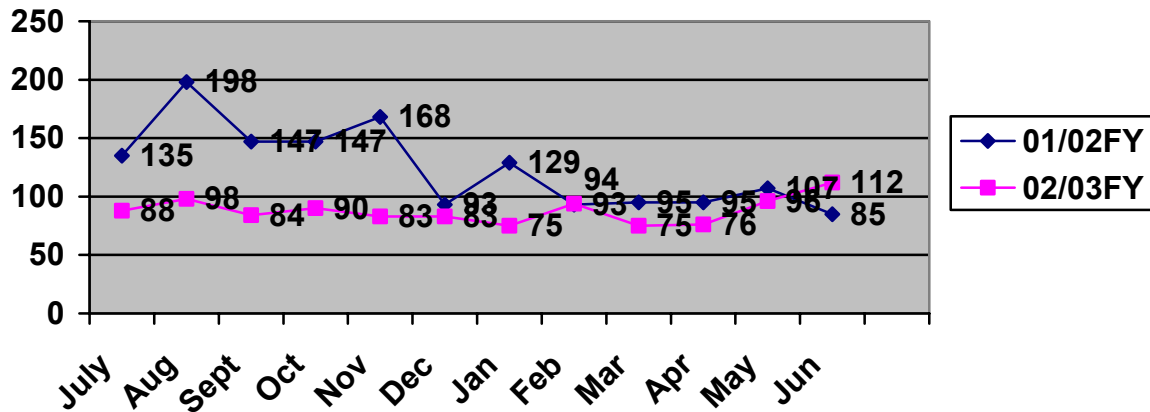


Equity Claims - These are claims where there is no legal liability on the part of the State to pay, but for which the claimant has asked the Board to exercise its equity power to provide payment in fairness for the action or inaction of a State agency. Also included to a large degree are outdated warrants (State-issued checks that went un-cashed for more than 3 years).

TORT CLAIMS – AVERAGE PROCESSING TIME

Fiscal Year Comparison	Month of June	Fiscal Year to Date	% Change from Prior FY
FY 02/03	112	82	35%
FY01/02	85	127	

Tort Claims - Avg Proc Time



Tort Claims –These are claims for damages filed against specific State agencies. These claims are generally rejected, but are a required administrative action to be taken by a claimant prior to bringing civil action against the State in a court of law. The filing of the Tort claim gives the State advance notice of potential future litigation.